



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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FBIS-AFR-96-006

**Thursday
4 April 1996**

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April 1996

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Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

FBIS-AFR-96-066

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Burundi

Burundi: Residents Flee Southern Province After Hutu Rebel Attack

EA0404115596 Bujumbura ABP in French
0551 GMT 4 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Bujumbura, 4 April — After a military brigade was attacked in Makamba town center — Makamba is in the south of the country — on the night of 2 April by Hutu armed gangs, severe troubles are now reported in that province, according to Governor Mr. Jean-Baptiste Gahimbare, speaking by telephone on Wednesday, 3 April.

According to Mr. Gahimbare, who phoned Bujumbura from [southern] Bururi Province — where perhaps he has taken refuge — the population of his province has started fleeing in disarray and houses are already being destroyed.

Burundi: Government Spokesman Concerned About Security Situation

EA0304202696 Bujumbura ABP in French
1550 GMT 03 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bujumbura, 3 April — The Burundi minister of communication who is also the government spokesman, Mr. Antoine Baza, on Wednesday [3 April] told the local press that the cabinet meeting of 2 April had expressed concern over the insecurity which is currently shaking some communes in the center and south of the country.

According to Mr. Baza, the clashes between Hutu armed groups and the mainly Tutsi army of Burundi in the Communes of Songa, Rumonge and Nyanza-Lac in the south of the country, and the Communes of Gishubi and Makebuko in central Burundi, is a major concern for the Burundi Government. The government's spokesman stressed that the government condemned all these warmongers who left behind material and human losses.

"In this respect, the government calls upon the population, especially schoolchildren in the areas where a fully-fledged war is taking place, to avoid other blood-baths", he went on to say.

It is worth recalling that men were savagely massacred, cows mutilated and houses burned in the Songa Commune of Bururi [southern Burundi], while the population of the Gishubi Commune of Gitega [central Burundi] province was forced to seek refugee in the neighboring communes following clashes between the [Leonard] Nyangoma armed groups and the Burundian army.

Rwanda

Rwanda: Government Urges Zaire To Repatriate Refugees

EA0404124496 Kigali Radio Rwanda in French
0445 GMT 4 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The [Rwandan] information minister and government spokesman Kigali held a news conference yesterday afternoon to clarify the citizenship of the deported Kinyarwanda-speaking Zairians who are arriving en masse in Rwanda.

Flanked by the principal private secretary [directeur de cabinet] at the Ministry of Rehabilitation and Social Integration, (Christine Mutoni), and the representative of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, (Georges Mutenzi), Minister Jean-Pierre Bizimana said that they were well and truly Kinyarwanda-speaking Zairian nationals.

The refugees said that they were being attacked, killed, or deported by Zairian soldiers helped by interahamwe [Hutu extremist] militiamen. The reasons behind the deportations, Minister Bizimana said, are not still very clear, adding that the refugees' guess is that they are being expelled so that their property and belongings are taken over by those who are ill-treating them. Minister Bizimana insisted on making things clear on the identity of these people who have fled to Rwanda.

[Begin Bizimana recording] These refugees, although they are Kinyarwanda-speaking people, are well and truly Zairian nationals. [passage omitted] [end recording].

The minister of information and government spokesman said that the Rwandan Government was now left to work out the real motives behind these deportations. Indeed, he said, it was unbelievable to see a sovereign country deporting its own nationals under the pretext that it is hosting foreign refugees. This is happening at a time when the Zairian Government — I'm quoting Minister Bizimana — is shouting loudly and firmly that its country will never be a homeland [previous word in English] for Rwandan refugees. Zaire has also pledged never to become a rear base for whoever wants to attack Rwanda.

Minister Bizimana said that the Rwandan Government called on the Zairian state to repatriate the refugees in their country in the shortest time possible and help them recover their property and belongings. Minister Bizimana also said the Rwandan Government called on the international community to be vigilant and help the countries concerned to avoid any maneuver likely to become, sooner or later, a source of tension, insecurity, and conflict in the sub-region.

Rwanda: Gasana Urges Zaire To Protect Refugees; Kenya Berated

*EA0304160496 Kigali Radio Rwanda in French
0445 GMT 03 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Dr. Anastase Gasana, the Rwandan minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, held a meeting yesterday with the diplomatic corps accredited to Kigali and UN agency officials to brief them on the seriousness of the forced deportation of Kinyarwanda-speaking Zairians and the Kenyan Government's decision to close the Rwandan Embassy [in Nairobi].

But before he touched on these topics, Minister Gasana reviewed all the efforts made by the Rwandan Government toward voluntary and general refugee repatriation. Although a lot remains to be done to attain our general objectives in repatriation matters, he said, what has been achieved so far cannot be underrated. Indeed, out of 3,439,396 refugees registered in July 1994, only 1,589,222 remain. Minister Gasana said these actions deserved encouragement from the international community and friendly countries.

Turning to the manhunt conducted against Kinyarwanda-speaking Zairians, the Rwandan foreign minister recalled that as soon as they arrived on Zairian territory, genocide perpetrators extended their violence to areas beyond refugee camps, selecting their targets from among the Zairian population, especially those who speak Kinyarwanda. [passage omitted]

The Rwandan Government, therefore, expresses concern about the fate of the Kinyarwanda-speaking Zairian community falling victim to the robberies and massacres committed by ex-Rwandan soldiers and militiamen. The Rwandan Government calls on the [Zairian] state not to spare any efforts to protect its own nationals, the Rwandan foreign minister said. Let us listen to Minister Anastase Gasana:

[Begin Gasana recording] At this very moment, Zairian refugees, especially Kinyarwanda-speaking ones, continue to rush to our border with Zaire. They are chased away and robbed of their property by genocide criminals when they are not merely killed.

We expected Zairian authorities to react swiftly to protect their own nationals against the ex-soldiers and militiamen of the former Rwandan regime. In fact, one is left to wonder whether Zaire has the necessary means to protect her own nationals.

The Rwandan Government does not, however, question the Zairian authorities' willingness [to solve the problem] and hopes that an appropriate solution will be soon

found to put an end to the suffering of that section of the population. [passage omitted] [end recording]

On the Kenyan Government's unilateral decision to close the Rwandan Embassy [in Nairobi] on 4 April, following the unjustified arrest of an embassy attache of Rwandan citizenship, Dr. Gasana told the ambassadors of friendly countries accredited to Kigali that everything led to the belief that there was some sort of manipulation game being played, a game worth being clearly identified. Indeed, one has to remember Kenya's statements last year [1995] which constituted an insult to diplomatic tact but which were fortunately rectified later on. Now again, Minister Gasana said, the Rwandan Government was annoyed with the Kenyan authorities' behavior toward the Rwandan diplomat stationed in Nairobi. Let us listen again to Minister Anastase Gasana:

[Begin Gasana recording] [passage omitted] The Rwandan Government calls on the international community and friendly countries to use their influence to make these authorities understand how serious such an act was — that is, to detain an embassy attache. These authorities should understand how serious such an act was [repetition as heard], they should understand how serious was such a decision to close, against the other side's consent, our embassy in Nairobi on the 4th of this month [April], with no regard for bilateral interests normally linking our two countries. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Rwanda: Refugee Group in Zaire Warns of Refugees' 'Despair'

*EA0304212596 Paris AFP in French
1549 GMT 3 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Nairobi, 3 Apr (AFP) — The Rally for Democracy and the Return of Refugees to Rwanda [RDR], the main Rwandan Hutu refugees organization, today launched a warning on the consequences of the refugees' "despair."

"The path to peace goes through dialogue and negotiation and not through violence and war," RDR spokesman Chris Nzabandora said in a release broadcast in Nairobi on the occasion of the second anniversary of the genocide. [passage omitted]

Created in April 1995, the RDR "has on several occasions, launched appeals on the Kigali Government," the release recalled. But up to now, the RDR spokesman further said, the government has "opposed all calls for dialogue" and "in the face of such a situation, some Rwandans from inside and outside the country have begun to feel desperate."

According to the RDR, this "despair is exacerbated" by the international community, which "gives in to any caprice" from the Rwandan Government and the UN High Commission for Refugees which "drives refugees to despair."

"Some refugees, posing as members of the RDR, take advantage of this climate to incite to violence, war and hatred, attitudes that are contrary to the RDR ideology," the communique added.

According to the RDR, "a situation that had been stabilized in the camps" is now gradually turning into a "situation of chaos that can lead to all sorts of extremism and dangers."

Rwanda: Visiting U.S.-EU Delegation Discusses Aid, Justice System

EA0304203796 Kigali Radio Rwanda in English
0500 GMT 03 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The vice-prime minister and minister of interior, Colonel Alexis Kanyarengwe, together with the minister of health, Dr. Joseph Karemera, and the minister of justice, Mrs. Martha Mukamurenzi, yesterday met with a joint European Community Commission, and the US [delegation] led by Mrs. Emma Bonino who is in charge of humanitarian assistance in the European Community, and Mr. Brian Atwood, the administrator of the USAID. Their discussions centered on the urgent humanitarian aid to Rwanda, on cooperation with NGO's and on the rehabilitation of the judicial system.

Regarding the urgent humanitarian aid, the vice-prime minister and minister of interior said such aid was still required by Rwanda to help orphan survivors of genocide and to resettle and reintegrate returnees. Regarding the NGO's, the two parties regretted the fact that certain NGO's did not respect cooperation regulations with the Rwandan Government.

Meanwhile, the two sides have agreed to exchange information in order to avoid any misunderstandings. In case of proposals for any solutions, the concerned parties should be duly informed.

On the rehabilitation of the justice system, the delegation of the European Community and the US declared that their countries were sensitive to this issue and that they will provide urgent assistance in this area.

Late in the afternoon, the European Community and the US delegation met with the president of the Republic, His Excellency Pasteur Bizimungu, who told Radio Rwanda the subject of his discussion with his visitors:

[Begin Bizimungu recording] We have been talking about on-going issues in Rwanda and the problem of refugees, the problem of justice and prisons, the problem of a roundtable which has been postponed and the perspective of our economy. So, we have confirmed that our intention is, our wish is, to see all refugees come back. That inside we have done everything necessary, but that most of the obstacles are outside. And in particular we have wished that intimidators be separated from genuine refugees.

Concerning the problem of justice, we have briefed them about the effort that we have made to make our system work again, our system which had completely collapsed after the genocide, and most importantly, we have briefed them about our efforts for working out an alternative form of justice which would eradicate impunity but would help also stabilize our society.

Concerning the assistance, the humanitarian assistance, we are in middle way. We still need some humanitarian assistance, but we need also, to some extent, development cooperation. So, those are the topics that we have been discussing. [end recording]

Sao Tome and Principe

Sao Tome & Principe: President Term of Office Extended by 5 Months

AB0304164696 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1215 GMT 3 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] There will not be any power vacuum in Sao Tome and Principe. In anticipation of the end of the current presidential term of office, the Sao Tomean National Assembly has just added five more months to President Miguel Trovoada's term of office. However, some restrictions have been attached to this five-month term of office. Francois-Luc Moukouangui, you have the details:

[Moukouangui] Yes, that is true. First, Miguel Trovoada cannot dissolve the National Assembly unless he has the approval of the greater majority of the deputies and can only use his presidential grace in certain special cases. Concerning imperatives, he must guarantee the security, stability, and peace of the citizens and finally organize the elections in a calm atmosphere. In order to safeguard peace, President Miguel Trovoada is requested to stop the new private radio and television created by the Independent Democratic Action Party, which is close to the head of state. But according to this political formation, the radio and television service being referred to is just a commercial one in conformity with the liberal economic system existing in the archipelago. However, his detractors are rather maintaining the

contrary because they feel that the radio and television service is a propaganda tool, which was transmitting illegally.

Despite this controversy, by extending President Trovoada's term of office, the deputies have shown some realism by avoiding a vacuum at the head of the state which cannot but have disastrous consequences, particularly as Prime Minister Armindo Vaz d'Almeida has presented his resignation in reaction to his not being appointed to the post of secretary general of the Movement for Liberation - Social Democratic Party — the majority party. For one week now, President Trovoada has refused to say clearly whether or not he has accepted this resignation.

However, according to various sources, this resignation has little chance of being accepted, because President Trovoada has an interest in keeping this present prime minister, at least until the elections are held to avoid another political upheaval in this archipelago, already torn apart by the social and economic crisis, which is partly responsible for the recent abortive military coup against President Trovoada. There was a great row against this coup attempt, which led to its failure, but whose scars have still not disappeared.

Eritrea

Eritrea: Sudanese Rebel Leader Vows To Continue Offensive

EA0304164096 *Asmara Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrigna* 0400 GMT 3 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Dr. John Garang, the leader of the SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army], has revealed that last week's SPLA military operations scored notable military victories [against the Sudanese Government] that guarantee its superiority.

In his press statement yesterday with Eritrean journalists and the [opposition] National Democratic Alliance of Sudan, he confirmed that the SPLA will continue its offensive to destroy the National Islamic Front's regime that came to power through a coup d'etat.

Following the recent offensive, he said, the southern Blue Nile [area] and all the areas bordering Ethiopia and Kenya were currently under complete SPLA control. He went on to say that the SPLA had also destroyed a Sudanese army garrison stationed in (Feshla) and (Yanbus), foiled a counter offensive and captured valuable arms that will help the SPLA in its future military operations.

Besides, Dr. Garang fully dismissed the Sudanese Government's accusations against its neighbors and said they were only made to cover up its defeats. He added that the SPLA was carrying out its military offensive with high morale, while the Sudanese army was demoralized and had lost its direction.

He also said that the current Sudanese Government was a problem to the entire Sudanese people, hence the SPLA's objectives, through the Sudanese National Democratic Alliance, to establish a country that believed in the unity and equality of its citizens, and that respected peace and stability in the region. The recent attacks were meant to achieve the above-mentioned objectives, and they clearly demonstrate the SPLA's capabilities.

Ethiopia

Ethiopia: Trial of Accused Mass Murderers Resumes, Readjourns

AB0404120596 *Paris AFP in English*
1121 GMT 4 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Addis Ababa, April 4 (AFP) — The trial of members of Ethiopia's former Marxist military regime, accused of murdering hundreds of opponents, resumed here Thursday [4 April] but was adjourned until next Tuesday [9 April], when the first witnesses are due to be heard.

Special prosecutor Ghirma Wakjira was scheduled by then to examine the case of one of the 46 defendants to appear in court, Corporal Fesseha Andeto, who had to be taken out of the courtroom on Thursday, seriously ill.

The defendants and a score of other people being tried in their absence — including the former leader of the "Red terror" regime, Lieutenant Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam — are accused of the murder of 1,823 opposition figures, genocide, torture and other crimes against humanity.

Mengistu has lived in exile in Zimbabwe since his regime was ousted in May 1991 by a Tigre-led rebel army and its allies from Eritrea, which has since become independent.

When the trial resumed Thursday after an adjournment of a month and a half to allow lawyers to gather more evidence, the special prosecutor gave a two-hour speech on the charges.

He is now due to rule on whether the sick corporal can plead guilty or not guilty from his hospital bed or whether his case must be examined separately, later.

The defendants risk the death penalty.

At the next hearings starting on Tuesday, witnesses will address the court, which is then to study various documents and reports from experts.

Uganda

Uganda: Aidid Said Turning Hospitals Into Command Centres

EA0104220096 *(Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of Somali Pacification in Somali*
1630 GMT 31 Mar 96

[FBIS Translated Text] A spokesman for the USC-SNA [United Somali Congress-Somali National Alliance] has said that the self-appointed group [Aidid's faction] has recently begun to convert Banaadir and Madina Hospitals in south Mogadishu into military command centers. The spokesman said it was shocking to see these hospitals, which had once been used to treat wounded people, cripples, and other patients, turned into military centers to stir up a civil war.

The spokesman called on relief and other international agencies to stop funding the hospitals as treatment centers and instead to consider them as military headquarters. In conclusion, the spokesman called on Somali doctors to respect the regulations governing health matters, to try to oppose anything which could bring problems to health centers, and to protect the rights of patients.

Uganda: Electoral Commission Clarifies Election Process

EA0204164296 Kampala Radio Uganda Network in English 0700 GMT 2 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] As presidential election campaigns get underway, the Interim Electoral Commission has issued further clarifications on the manner in which the campaigns should be conducted. In a press release issued yesterday, the commissioner called upon all presidential candidates, their national campaign managers, their agents, and the general public to observe the following guidelines:

— Because of the likelihood of confusing the voters, the wearing of badges and displaying of posters showing photographs of only persons who are presidential candidates, [words indistinct] or cultural leaders is allowed during the presidential campaign period.

— The use of places of worship for carrying out campaign activities is prohibited and religious leaders are requested to discourage politicians from using their places of worship for soliciting for votes.

— Ministers, [word indistinct], government officials, district leaders, and politicians of all shades are prohibited from using their official position in government to address rallies with a view of soliciting for votes for any presidential candidate, or campaigning against any presidential candidate.

— Only presidential candidates are allowed under Section (?Six) of the Presidential Election Interim Provisions Statute 1996 to solicit for votes in the forthcoming presidential elections.

— The Interim Electoral Commission has declared that the display of voters' registers should be done in public places, and should not be done in the private custody of the display officer.

— Returning officers are to ensure that voters' registers are accessible to all voters and any display officer who does not comply commits an offence under the Parliamentary Elections Interim Provisions Statute 1996.

— Any person facing a problem or having a complaint during the display period may refer the problem or complaint to the display tribunal. The deliberations of the display tribunal should be public to ensure transparency. Any person aggrieved by the decisions of the tribunal may appeal to the Interim Electoral Commission through the respective returning officer.

— Those who did not register for voting in the constituent assembly elections or during the update of [the] voters' register will not register now. Anybody found trying to carry out fresh registration now commits an offence under the law. Those who have not yet checked their names on the voters' register and have not (?pitched) their voters' cards should do so early enough to avoid being caught up [as heard] by the time limit for display. [passage omitted]

— The Minister of Information has availed to each presidential candidate airtime on both Radio Uganda and Uganda television every day. On Radio Uganda the presidential candidates' campaign policies will be aired in the "Newshour" programme after the eight o'clock news bulletin. Each presidential candidate has been availed 15 minutes on Radio Uganda. On Uganda television, the presidential candidates' campaign policies will be telecast after the eight o'clock and ten o'clock news bulletin. [passage omitted]

Uganda: Presidential Candidate Backs Obote's Return, Rebel Talks

EA0304161096 Kampala THE NEW VISION in English 3 Apr 96 p 1

[Report by Pelegrine Otonga in Corner Kamdini: "Ssemogerere To Bring Obote Back"]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Presidential aspirant [opposition Democratic Party leader] Dr. Paul Ssemogerere, has assured the people of Lango that former President Dr. Apollo Milton Obote will return safely home if he [Ssemogerere] is elected in the forthcoming presidential elections.

He also said he could talk to the leader of the rebel LRA [Lord's Resistance Army], Joseph Kony, to end the current rebellion in the north.

Ssemogerere was speaking at the first leg of his inaugural campaign in Lango Districts of Apac and Lira at Corner Kamdini yesterday morning. Kamdini is in Aber County, Apac District [northern Uganda].

He told the cheering crowd that Dr. Apollo Milton Obote should be allowed to enjoy his fundamental human rights as a citizen and to return to his own country. [passage omitted]

South Africa: De Klerk 'Rather Worried' About Mandela's Health

BR0404115296 Paris LE FIGARO in French
3 Apr 96 p 6

[Interview with Frederik De Klerk, former South African president and National Party leader, by Caroline Dumay in Capetown: "De Klerk: 'We Are Not the African National Congress' Lackeys'"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Dumay] For many people the future is uncertain. From the president's health to his successor in office, how do you see post-Mandela South-Africa?

[De Klerk] I personally am rather worried about his health. I hope he will be well until 1999, the year he intends to leave office. What is at stake is the national interest. Having said that, if he had to leave office at an earlier date, there would not be chaos as a result. Those who are supposed to succeed him — Thabo Mbeki or Cyril Ramaphosa — have gone through every stage of the new South Africa. Their political vision is virtually the same as the president's. There is no need to worry. There is not going to be any brutal shifting of gears.

[Dumay] What about you? Are you planning to retire in 1999 as well?

[De Klerk] I am not in the habit of advertising my career moves in advance. And I am still young. I just turned 60 recently. For the time being, I feel no desire to go on retirement.

South Africa: Mandela Said 'Pleased' Major Constitutional Issues Resolved

MB0304185896 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1339 GMT 3 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] ARNISTON April 3 SAPA — President Nelson Mandela has told constitutional negotiators meeting behind closed doors in Arniston that he is pleased that the bulk of outstanding issues have been resolved and there will be no need to resort to dead-lock breaking mechanisms.

The President was confident the Constitution would be adopted by the May 9 deadline, presidential spokesman Parks Mankahlana said.

Constitutional Assembly [CA] chairman Cyril Ramaphosa had briefed the President and said negotiators had "made tremendous progress and more or less resolved the bulk of issues". A spirit of give and take had prevailed during the three-day hosheraad, Ramaphosa had said.

Mandela had welcomed the progress and said "it was an example of South Africa's success [words indistinct]

in conflict resolution", Mankahlana said. The President was particularly pleased that a deadlock-breaking mechanism would be avoided as this would have been "a tragedy for the country", Mankahlana said. If this mechanism had been used, "we would have emerged weaker than we would have been before resorting to it".

Asked what outstanding issues still needed to be resolved, Mankahlana said almost all issues had been resolved but did not elaborate. Two committees were still deliberating and a statement would be issued by the CA on Thursday [4 April].

The President had spent about 45 minutes with the CA negotiators and had spent some time posing for photographs with the different political parties taking part. Deputy CA chairman Leon Wessels had paid tribute to the President, especially for his role in promoting national reconciliation, Mankahlana said.

The president flew to Qunu directly after the meeting for a five-day break.

The negotiators, from all parties in the Constitutional Assembly, started their three-day private talks in seclusion at the Denel missile site in Arniston on Monday [1 April] with a view to trying to resolve outstanding issues for South Africa's final constitution outside the glare of publicity.

South Africa: No Constitutional Agreement on Right To Strike, Lock-Out

MB0404071596 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0650 GMT 4 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cape Town April 4 SAPA — No agreement on the inclusion of the right to strike or lock-out in South Africa's final constitution was reached at this week's constitutional hosheraad [hush summit], it emerged at a Constitutional Assembly [CA] management committee [mancom] meeting on Thursday [4 April].

In a report tabled on the three-day private talks among CA negotiators it also says that the death penalty, property clause and education are areas still in contention.

CA sources said that while there was broad agreement on the principles of provincial competencies and the proposed Council of Provinces, further inter-party bilaterals were needed and these would ultimately have to be referred to a multi-lateral.

CA Chairman Cyril Ramaphosa told the Mancom the hosheraad at Arniston on the Cape south coast had "gone extremely well...We achieved what we intended".

"In our estimation, we will be able to conclude our work on May 8, as we have said."

The report is to be discussed at a meeting of the CA's constitutional committee from 9 AM. CA Executive Director Hassen Ebrahim said, depending on what happened at the constitutional committee, the CA's legal experts would need an instruction from the Mancom on their on-going process of refinement of the working draft of the new constitution over the Easter recess.

The CA was obliged to publish it on April 15.

Ramaphosa said senior negotiators should give the CA administration contact numbers where they could be reached during Parliament's Easter recess.

South Africa: ANC Says 'No Doubt' Constitutional 9 May Deadline To Be Met

*MB0404074296 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0620 GMT 4 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cape Town April 3 SAPA — The African National Congress on Wednesday [3 April] night said there could be "no doubt" the May 9 deadline for adopting South Africa's final constitution would be met.

The party was "extremely satisfied" with the way discussions on the new constitution had progressed at the Arniston bosberaad [bush summit] over the past three days, the ANC's Department of Publicity and Information said in a statement.

The negotiators had made "tremendous progress" towards finalising the constitution. Significant among the areas of agreement were the bill of rights, the provincial competencies and the council of provinces.

There were a number of other issues on which agreement was imminent, the ANC said, adding the discussions had been boosted by the attendance of President Nelson Mandela, who encouraged the parties to avoid a deadlock.

Mandela said parties should seek compromises, so that the deadlock-breaking mechanisms prescribed by the interim constitution would not have to be used. "The ANC is confident that, thanks to the last few days' deliberations, the country is well on its way to achieving an enduring, legitimate and democratic final constitution."

More details of the areas of agreement would be made available on Thursday [4 April], the statement concluded.

South Africa: ANC, NP Alliance Said Centralizing Power in Parliament

*MB0404105096 Johannesburg FINANCIAL MAIL
in English 22 Mar 96 p 46*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] An ANC-NP [National Party] provincial competencies and structures in such a way as to centralise power in parliament in ways that Inkatha must, in principle, find abhorrent. The DP's [Democratic Party] cavils over these powers and the nature of the National Council of Provinces (CoP — to replace the Senate) carry little force with the major parties.

In March 1995, the ANC first used the term "co-operative governance" to define its intention of creating strong links between the centre and the regions. Now, in a document laid before the CA [Constitutional Assembly], it spells out the extent to which a national legislative "override" might operate: "The national legislation prevails over the provincial legislation if the national legislation is necessary for the achievement of an (essential) national objective and applies uniformly in or within the country as a whole."

National competencies include: —The maintenance of national security; —The maintenance of economic unity; —The protection of the common market in respect of the mobility of goods, services, capital and labour; —The promotion of commerce across provincial boundaries; —The promotion of equality and equal opportunities; —Protection of the environment; and —The prevention of unreasonable action by a province which prejudices another province or the country as a whole.

The wording is stronger than in the interim constitution. A special schedule lists the areas where government and the provinces have "concurrent" functions. It is lengthy and incomplete — but appears to devolve few exclusive powers to the regions given the national competencies outlined above. In addition, there is the question of the CoP — not to be confused with the proposed national Council of Traditional Leaders (Current Affairs March 15). It will be composed of provincial representatives elected on the basis of a party's proportional representation in the provincial legislature — five or seven from each province — and some appointees. The council will have the power to consider legislation falling within the exclusive competence of government; it may "consent or object" to such laws; and if amendments are suggested, the National Assembly "must reconsider such a Bill" but need not accept alterations.

All Bills relating to the powers of the provinces — excluding appropriation Bills and constitutional amendments — must pass through the CoP or be submitted to

a mediation committee. In some ways, the CoP becomes a body more focused upon provincial needs — its functions are slightly above those of oversight. It will be the second house of parliament. It will also, of course, be dominated by the ANC for the foreseeable future — the party rules seven of the nine provinces. So it would not be excessively cynical to view it as a mechanism for tightening the hold of the ANC-dominated centre. That appears to be the intent behind the phrase "co-operative governance," which NP [National Party] chief negotiator Roelf Meyer has also taken to using.

Inkatha's absence has inevitably prejudiced it in the negotiations that have led to the antifederal bias of the debate.

The final constitution must be passed by a two-thirds majority of the National Assembly and Senate sitting together, and be certified by the Constitutional Court. Two deadlock-breaking mechanisms have been accepted by the CA to soften such an outcome. The first involves referral of the disputed text to the special panel of constitutional experts which would have a month to attempt to secure consensus; the second is that the court must specify where the text is flawed and set a time limit for the CA to rectify matters. Unless the final text is voted on a month before the official deadline, both options would involve an extension and can thus only be mandated by another amendment to the interim constitution.

South Africa: Buthelezi Says IFP Not To Join Constitution Process

MB0404122196 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1059 GMT 4 Apr 96

[Report by Eleanor Momber]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cape Town April 4 SAPA — To expect the IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] to return to the constitution-making process at this late stage was a "very sick joke on the part of Cyril Ramaphosa", IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi said on Thursday (4 April).

Reacting to the Constitutional Assembly [CA] chairman's statement earlier in the day that the IFP was welcome to return to the CA during the next four weeks, Buthelezi said there was "no intention on the part of the ANC that we should be there".

On Ramaphosa's statement that IFP Senator Ruth Rabinowitz was among several IFP members who had telephoned Arniston during the CA's Bosheraad [bush summit] to inquire about progress made with the Constitution, he said she was doing it on her own as a member of the public. "I cannot chide her for that," he said, but

she had not been given a mandate by the party to monitor the proceedings.

Rabinowitz and others were interested in the proceedings and could inquire about it as all members of the public were allowed to do.

The IFP's national council decision that it would only return if international mediation was agreed to still remained in force. "We have never changed our decision," Buthelezi said in an interview with SAPA.

Because of the IFP's non-participation in the constitution-making process the new constitution would be "imposed on us" by the people who wrote it. "I don't think there can really be stability and peace because of the non-inclusivity of the whole process," he said.

One of the issues causing conflict in the KwaZulu/Natal provincial constitution was the position of the monarchy. That had been shelved and passed onto a commission for further investigation.

However, the matter could only be dealt with once an Act of Parliament recognising the Zulu monarchy had been passed. There was more reason now than ever before for international mediation, he said referring to a letter he had written to President Nelson Mandela last week about the imbizo [traditional Zulu gathering] and international mediation.

The agreement for international mediation between Buthelezi, Deputy President FW de Klerk and President Mandela in 1994 had facilitated the IFP's participation in the 1994 general election.

"All three of us...are men of honour. One can expect that should be honoured," he said.

Buthelezi said it looked as though the President "has closed his mind completely to honouring the agreement" that had been signed. However, he did not think President Mandela would want to go down in history for not ensuring that the constitution-making process was not inclusive.

"There is no way we are going to give respectability to that" by returning to the CA. The deadline for the new Constitution is May 9.

South Africa: 20,000 Civil Servants Expected To Take Severance Package

MB0304201396 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
3 Apr 96 p 1

[Report by Justice Malala]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Thousands of civil servants are expected to apply for a government severance package

negotiated over the past week in a further move to trim and make the 1.8-million service more efficient. It is understood that government negotiators at the pay talks expect at least 20,000 workers to take advantage of the severance package immediately. A clause in the agreement, however, allows the state to bar workers in pivotal positions from taking the package.

Public sector unions last week agreed to a 7.5 percent pay hike, coupled with a voluntary severance package that will allow disgruntled employees to leave the service without taking a cut in their pension allowances. Applications for the package opened on Monday (1 April).

The parties agreed to the implementation of two crucial points of a four-point agreement hammered out last month. This would see an increase of up to 44 percent for workers, such as nurses, disadvantaged by previous salary grades, and a commitment to make around R [rand] 6.5-million available for the second and third year of the three year salary scheme.

National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union spokesman Fikile Majola said the agreement was likely to see an increase in the number of resignations from the service. "Those who are 55 or older and have at least 10 years' service will get a lump sum and their pension benefits.

"There are a lot of old-guard public servants who want to leave because they are scared of things like affirmative action. The only thing that held them back was fear that they would lose their pension benefits," Majola said. The lump sum is calculated as the sum of a worker's final average annual salary plus their pensionable service divided by 100.

About 43,000 workers left the public service in the year ending May 1995. The Government intends to cut the service, which has been criticised for its hugeness and inefficiency, into a more manageable entity with more black people in it. It is estimated that the Government could cut up to 300,000 jobs over the next few years.

Spokesmen for the Public Service and Administration Ministry could not be reached for comment yesterday.

The largest union in the service the Public Service Association [PSA], will demand that the taking of a voluntary severance package be regarded as a right, rather than the privilege of the Government to grant it. This would allow any civil servant who applied, to get it. Talks will resume on April 15.

PSA spokesman Anton Louwrens said: "It is difficult to predict how many will take up the offer because the package will be different for each person. "The

Government negotiators were hoping they would get up to 20,000 to leave the public service through this package." He warned that the present package negotiated would not be a free-for-all for employees to leave, but would apply only to those within specifically identified budgeting programmes of the Government.

The first phase of the new grading system would be implemented from July 1, and provided for the adjustment of the minimum wage from R13,200 to R17,000 a year.

The starting salary of R25,866 for professional nurses would, after incorporating professional allowances, be R40,836.

The two issues which the parties have agreed to in principle, but still have to finalise, are the restructuring of pension benefits to help promote mobility among civil servants and the details of the rightsizing programme.

South Africa: Gauteng Government Announces Cabinet Streamlining

*MB0404080996 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0243 GMT 4 Apr 96*

[Announcement by the Gauteng Provincial Government on the SAPA PR wire service on 3 April]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Today, we take pleasure in welcoming our new minister, Mr Aboo Kahn, to the Gauteng Cabinet. I'd like to thank Mr Justice Flemming for assisting us with the swearing-in ceremony, and for finding time in his tight schedule to be here with us. We would like to use this opportunity to announce the streamlining of certain portfolios and constitutional competencies in the Gauteng Cabinet. This streamlining will result in our cabinet taking the following form:

Mr Dan Mofokeng as minister of housing and land affairs: Mr Mofokeng's portfolio has been adjusted to ensure that we fast-track housing delivery. He will oversee both land allocation and housing delivery on land which is identified for development.

Mr Sicelo Shiceka as minister of development planning and local government: development planning requires coordination with all planning authorities in Gauteng, in particular with local governments. We need to sound coordination of planning and growth, and part of Mr Shiceka's brief is to bring together all planning authorities to ensure coordinated planning and development.

Ms Mary Metcalfe as minister of education and culture: our education minister will now take additional responsibility for cultural affairs and development in Gauteng.

Mr Peter Skosana as minister of sport, recreation and welfare: Mr Skosana has been given the added

responsibility of ensuring the welfare of all the people of Gauteng.

Mr Sakkie Blanche as minister of public works and public media, Mr Jabu Moleketi as minister of economic affairs, finance and agriculture: our economics minister takes responsibility for agriculture, a critical portfolio which must be run in a business-like way. Although Gauteng is highly-urbanised (over 85 percent of the province is urbanised), agriculture plays a vital role in our economic development.

Mr Aboo Kahn as minister of conservation and the environment: this is a very critical portfolio in our province. We have to ensure the management of hazardous waste and effluent, and ensure the preservation of our environment. It is an issue which must be taken very seriously.

There are no changes in the following portfolios:

Safety & Security (Ms Jessie Duarte)
Health (Mr Amos Masondo)
Public Transport (Mr Olaus van Zyl)

The Gauteng Cabinet	
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Tokyo Sexwale	Premier
Sakkie Blanche	Public works and Public Media
Jessie Duarte	Safety and Security
Aboo Khan	Conservation and Environment
Amos Masondo	Health
Mary Metcalfe	Education and Culture
Dan Mofokeng	Housing and Land Affairs
Jabu Moleketi	Economic Affairs, Finance and Agriculture
Sicelo Shiceka	Development Planning and Local Government
Peter Skosana	Sport, Recreation and Welfare
Olaus van Zyl	Public Transport and Roads

South Africa: AWB Leader Says Sentencing of Members 'Recipe' for War

MB0404073596 Johannesburg SABC 2 Television Network in English 0400 GMT 4 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] AWB [Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging; Afrikaner Resistance Movement] leader Eugene Terreblanche says yesterday's sentencing of 14

members of the organization is regarded as a recipe for revolution and war. Speaking in Pretoria last night, Mr. Terreblanche said President Mandela should know that this could force the movement to operate underground.

[Begin Terreblanche recording in Afrikaans, in progress] You have found the recipe not only to create corruption, theft, war, poverty, despair, unemployment; you have also found the recipe for revolution, and what is more, you have now discovered the recipe to even drive AWB members underground, if it has to. [loud applause] [end recording]

Mr. Terreblanche said the government was creating Afrikaner martyrs by sentencing AWB members to such long prison terms. He said Afrikaners regarded these people as soldiers and not criminals. The right-wing leader added that resistance was growing and the organization would not be threatened by yesterday's court decision.

Ten of the 14 AWB men convicted of charges relating to the 1994 preelection bombings were sentenced in the Rand supreme court yesterday. Five of the rightwingers were sentenced to an effective 26 years for murder and other charges relating to the spate of bombings. Two others each received 12 years and two months in jail, and another three years and four months for motor vehicle theft. The four men who are still at large after escaping from the Diepkloof prison last month were not sentenced.

South Africa: 3,000 Policemen To Deploy for KwaZulu/Natal Elections

MB0304184996 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1344 GMT 3 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] PIETERMARITZBURG April 3 SAPA — At least 3,000 additional policemen from around the country would be deployed in KwaZulu-Natal before May 29 local government elections, provincial police commissioner Chris Serfontein said on Wednesday [3 April].

Speaking in Pietermaritzburg at the presentation of a provincial government vision for KwaZulu-Natal, Serfontein said the additional policemen would work hand-in-hand with local police.

He said 3,300 polling stations would have to be manned during the poll, at least 600 more than during the 1994 general elections.

The local elections would place tremendous strain on existing resources. However, security arrangements for the poll were on track, Serfontein said.

South Africa: Agreements Signed for Farmers To Settle in Mozambique

MB0304164396 Johannesburg Channel Africa Radio in English 1500 GMT 3 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The South African Chamber for Agricultural Development in Africa says that agreements it signed recently with the Mozambican and South African governments have paved the way for South African farmers to settle in Mozambique.

In a statement issued in Pretoria, the chamber said a meeting would be held next week to finalize arrangements for groups of South African farmers planning to leave for Mozambique next month.

South African Press Review for 3 Apr

[FBIS Report]

THE STAR

Labor, Business Economic Documents — Major economic policy documents released by business and labor respectively "reveal little common ground, except that both emphasise job creation and growth," notes a page-18 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 3 April. Business calls for a "reduction in government spending, accelerated privatisation and, most controversially, a two-tier arrangement which would exclude unskilled entrants from the highly regulated labour system." Labor calls for, among other things, "government intervention in the economy and higher taxes on the super-rich and businesses." "The ANC-led Government's major problem is that South Africa will obtain the foreign investment necessary for growth only if it adheres to the programmes so detested by labour, those set by the IMF and World Bank." THE STAR says big business "should know it is politically unrealistic to expect a two-tier labour system" and unions in turn "must realise higher taxes discourage investment and job creation." "Maximum free market flexibility is needed" as well as organized labor to "pressure big business and government until there is greater economic equality."

SOWETAN

Labor's Economic Document 'Significant' — Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 3 April in a page-12 editorial says labor's economic document is significant "in that it underlines the fact that we have finally passed the stage at which business and capital make all the running when it comes to economic policy, with labour content with a fault-finding and oppositional role." SOWETAN also believes labor has come up with specific recommendations which "merit serious consideration by all who wish to develop and grow the South African economy and bring about economic equity and justice." These include the scrapping of value-added tax on all food, water, medicines, and domestic electricity. More importantly labor has indicated "that it is committed to contributing to job creation by urging members to forgo overtime and to negotiate issues around productivity."

BUSINESS DAY

Labor's Economic 'Wishlist' — The economic policy document spearheaded by the Congress of South African Trade Unions, COSATU, "is severely lacking in terms of rigour and methodology. It is, in many respects, more an ideological tirade than a comprehensive policy proposal." The document includes a series of "wishlist" items all of which "would raise employment costs and/or reduce labour market flexibility." With the labor document following that of the South African Foundation and the verbally outlined but as yet unseen government equivalent, the economic policy debate "has entered a new phase." Business and organized labor have now "staked out positions. What is difficult to discern is whether and how they will engage each other seriously — or, indeed, whether they wish to." BUSINESS DAY on 3 April concludes that the "deliberately exaggerated" staked out positions "are of limited help to a government looking for nuanced guidance."

Angola

Angola: 2 UN Observers Killed by Unidentified Men in Benguela

MB0304200696 *Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese* 1930 GMT 3 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Two UN Angola Verification Mission-3 [Unavem-3] military observers were killed along the Cubal-Benguela road today. They are Major [Al-Zahu Ziad] from Jordan and Captain [Murai Shakespeare] from Zimbabwe. Also killed in the incident was Oxfam Director Chris Stewards from Great Britain, while Major Singh from India was wounded. The attack took place at around 1000 [0800 GMT] today, and so far the identity of the attackers and their objective are not known. The wounded Indian major is already in Luanda. Unavem-3 is investigating the incident.

Angola: UN, Government, UNITA Form Team To Investigate Killings

MB0404071496 *Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese* 0600 GMT 4 Apr 96

[Report by Pedro Manuel]

[FBIS Translated Text] UN Special Representative Alioune Blondin Beye described yesterday as a black day because unidentified armed men attacked a UN Angola Verification Mission-3 [Unavem-3] vehicle traveling between Cubal and Benguela, murdering three of its occupants: two military observers and a Briton serving in the nongovernmental Oxfam aid organization. An Indian Blue Helmet was also seriously wounded.

In Luanda yesterday, the government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] promised to leave no stone unturned in their search for those responsible. A Unavem-3-led inquiry commission including government and UNITA representatives, as well as observers, will go to the site of the attack today to investigate the incident.

Angola: Official Claims Army Presence Prevents UNITA Confinement in Ntucu

MB0304153296 *Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese* 1200 GMT 3 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Brigadier Mango Felo, who is responsible for the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola's [UNITA] troop confinement in the Northern Region, told the Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Negage that troop confinement in Ntucu has been slow in starting because of the government military presence in the Quelo area.

Brig. Felo, who had just visited Ntucu, noted that things would begin as soon as the UN Angola Verification Mission-3 [Unavem-3] reports the departure of 18 soldiers still deployed in the area UNITA has occupied since late 1995. [passage omitted]

Botswana

Botswana: Masire 'Gratified' Peace Made Between Warring BDP Factions

MB0304195596 *Gaborone THE BOTSWANA GUARDIAN in English* 22 Mar 96 pp 10, 11

[Report by Joel Sebonego]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] When newspapers reported four years ago on the apparent split within the ruling Botswana Democratic Party [BDP], they were dismissed as messengers of doom, hell bent on destroying and discrediting the ruling party.

Law suits became the order of the day. One press conference after another; one political rally after another, denounced the media reports — not surprising as such reports were from the private media.

This past weekend's pronouncements by the President Sir Ketumile Masire, was but an admission of the existence of divisions within the ruling party and he was at pains to convince the nation that the warring factions in his party had decided to bury the hatchet and call a truce. In his dramatic vindication of the news media reports, the President Sir Ketumile Masire noted in his address to the BDP national council meeting held at Sebele, that his party has been beset with infighting.

"One of the major problems that have, until recently, been besetting our organisation was the infighting within it. There were some who seem hell bent on seeing us destroy ourselves through their intolerance of views that diverge from their own. I am gratified that peace has now been made between these groups. We must now learn to respect and accommodate divergent views. It should not surprise us that in our organisation there will be unshakable loyalists or conformists as well as some mavericks. The Democratic Party had always been able to accommodate these elements without compromising discipline. It should never have appeared that there was no room for this coexistence and tolerance in the BDP of today. Once more, [words indistinct] to say that this is now going to be a thing of the past." Adding that the BDP prides itself in its ability to accommodate within itself different persuasions and to allow all within it the right to participate freely.

"It has been most disappointing that those divisive activities went so far as to cripple the Party's campaign

capabilities. That made our business as a party to win the elections very difficult. It also the capability to deny us the chance to implement our policies which we know to be the best for this country.

It is therefore important to know that if we damage or diminish our ability to win elections we shall become moribund and subsequently lie down and perish. This will be self-inflicted death, I must therefore applaud you for the decision to get out of that regrettable situation.

This is the time to consolidate our position and prepare ourselves for the future. Our people still look to us for leadership and guidance. If we fail, we do not just fail ourselves, we fail all our people and history and posterity will judge us harshly. We have acquitted ourselves ably and creditably in the past particularly in the Southern African region. Our collapse would negate all the acclamations we have received and nullify the example we have provided for those democracies that emerged after us and wished to follow the path we have trodden.

"I need not, I take it, remind you what has happened to others even in the sub-continent in terms of electoral misfortunes. That the same did not happen to us in 1994 is proof that we were right all along. I appeal to you to resolve never again to let petty squabbles ruin the good things that our party has done for Batswana. I urge you to put your heads and hands together and work for a resounding BDP victory in 1999.

Of course, we as party can have the best policies, as indeed we believe we do, but if these are not efficiently implemented however good they are, they will be to no avail.

Your parliamentarians and councillors are the ones who are or should be in constant contact with central government and local authorities agencies responsible for the implementation of government policies, schemes and projects. They are the first to see if there is effective implementation or not. They are accountable to you and you must ask questions and demand answers if you think something is amiss.

The President said further that the biggest challenge facing his government is the insufficient implementation of projects, be they developmental or recurrent. And that his government is working on several avenues to overcome the bottle necks they encounter.

The productivity drive through Botswana National Productivity Center (BNFC,) The Work Improvement Teams (WITS) exercise and the weeding out of ineffective officers from the civil service are just but a few examples of the efforts made to ameliorate the situation he said.

Regarding the glaring reality of a strong opposition challenge for political power, Sir Ketumile was the first to admit that the opposition is now reaching out into the hitherto traditional BDP terrains. We need to find ways through which we can procure at least enough motor vehicles to deploy in our ten regions. We need these facilities to run an effective campaign for 1999.

If the political terrain had remained the same as in 1994, I would be totally certain, without any doubt in my mind, that we would reverse the electoral losses of 1994. However, a lot will be different. In 1999 we will have an additional sizable proportion of voters that we need to woo into our camp. I am talking here about the youth, as for the first time, eighteen year olds will enjoy the franchise.

Our opponents would sooner have all of us believe that all youths will vote for them. This of course is not true. I am sure that we will have a significant share of the young vote. But we in the BDP, the party that has done so much for this country and all its people, must refuse to be content with just a significant share of this vote. We must go out and endeavour to get a significantly high share of their vote.

Finally, the President advised that the recruitment of teenagers into the BDP should not lead to partisan riots in the schools among the students themselves or between the students and their teachers to the detriment of discipline and the teaching and learning process.

Lesotho

Lesotho: Finance Minister Presents 'Record' Budget

MB0304183896 Maseru Radio Lesotho in English
1600 GMT 3 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The minister of finance and economic planning, the Honorable Dr. Moeketsi Senoana, presented a record budget when he delivered his annual budget speech in the National Assembly this afternoon. The minister announced that total revenues and grants for the new financial year have been budgeted at 2019 million moloti, representing a 9.2 percent increase over the figure for last year. The bulk of the revenue representing more than 54 percent and totalling 1006 million moloti is from Lesotho's share of the customs revenue pool in the Southern African Customs Union, SACU.

Dr. Senoana said this reflected Lesotho's continued reliance on SACU customs receipts in the country's finances. Income taxes at 301 million moloti account for about 17 percent of total revenues. Total expenditures and net lending is budgeted at 1,964.5 million moloti.

representing an increase of 14.2 percent on last year. Dr. Senaoana said wages and salaries showed the highest increase of 34.9 percent.

The minister said Lesotho had made remarkable progress in correcting macro-economic imbalances which characterized the 1980's. At the heart of these imbalances were high levels of budget deficits. Dr. Senaoana told the house that this year's budget is a product of extensive deliberations between his ministry and his colleagues in the cabinet on the availability of resources and allocations of these resources. He said the budget represented a consensus on how the government considered as priorities, the attainment of government objectives of economic growth, macro-economic stability, poverty alleviation, and sustainable human development.

The minister expressed his appreciation to the donor community for their continued support in Lesotho's development efforts. He said while the Lesotho Government understood the budgetary constraints being experienced in world capitals, the much valued support to Lesotho was most welcome.

Mozambique

Mozambique: Government Approves New Transportation Policy

MB0404052996 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 3 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Antonio Fernando, deputy minister of transportation and communications, said in Maputo today that, according to the new transportation policy, tertiary ports will be privatized. They include the ports of Chinde, Mocimboa da Praia, Angoche, Macuse, and Inhambane.

The government also believes it is viable to transform the informal public transportation system into a properly structured transportation system. The transportation policy approved by the government yesterday is subdivided into different fields, notably railroad, port, sea, river, and lake fields.

Mozambique: Police Discover Renamo Arms Caches in Nampula

MB0204194896 Maputo Radio Maputo in English 1800 GMT 2 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Mozambican police have uncovered several arms caches in areas (last held) by Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] rebel forces in the northern Mozambican Province of Nampula. The caches were found in the districts of Murrupula and Muecate. The Maputo daily paper, NOTICIAS, quotes

a police commander in Nampula, Basilio Monteiro, as saying that the weaponry included 12 AK-47 rifles, rocket launchers, ammunition, and other weapons. Commander Monteiro told NOTICIAS that the arms were discovered by the police as a result of a tip-off from members of the public.

Mozambique: South Africa Announces Farmers' Settlement Package

MB0404094896 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 0800 GMT 4 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] South Africa has announced a 15 million rand package for the settlement of South African farmers in Mozambique. The agreement was supposed to have been signed in the presence of Presidents Nelson Mandela and Joaquim Chissano in Pretoria on 29 March, but its signing was postponed for technical reasons, according to the Mozambican President's Office.

A South African source subsequently disclosed that the problem turned on government guarantees.

Mozambique: Foreign Aid Reports Monitored 25-31 Mar

MB0204070496

[FBIS Report] Following is a compilation of reports monitored by FBIS Mbabane Bureau from 25 to 31 March on foreign aid to Mozambique. Items are listed by donor. Source follows each item.

GERMANY — The German Government will supply 700 metric tonnes of corn to flood victims in Sofala Province, Buzi and Nhamatanda Districts. A statement issued by the German Embassy in Maputo says the corn is worth about DM900,000, the equivalent of 7 billion meticals. Distribution and transportation costs will be covered by the German Government. (Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 28 Mar 96)

JAPAN — The charge d'affaires at the Japanese Embassy in Harare presented a \$100,000 check to Foreign and Cooperation Minister Leonardo Simao on 25 March. The money will go toward emergency assistance to victims of rains that have been reported in the country since October 1995. (Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1600 GMT 26 Mar 96)

UN — The United Nations will make available \$1.25 million for the rehabilitation of economic and social infrastructure in Nampula Province. The money will be used in the districts of Monapo, Mecuburi, and Muecate. Each district must draw up a viable four-year program to repair its economic and social infrastructure. (Maputo

Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 29 Mar 96)

WORLD BANK — The World Bank [word indistinct] the World Food Program will finance the construction of 105 primary schools with a total of 315 classrooms in Cabo Delgado Province until 2000. The project, estimated at \$4 million, will provide the province with 700 primary schools. (Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 28 Mar 96)

Swaziland

Swaziland: Minister Denies Aircraft To Be Returned to Netherlands

MB0204204396 Mbabane Swazi Television in English 1730 GMT 2 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] The minister for transport and communications, Mr. Ephraem Magagula, says it is not true that the Fokker-100 was returning to Holland. Mr. Magagula was responding to a question asked by Sam Lukhele, to clarify the position of the plane, after reports claimed that the plane might be returned to Holland forever.

[Begin Magagula recording] Fortunately that piece of news is not known by this ministry. To this point, we haven't made a decision to return the F-100 to Holland. At this stage, we are busy restructuring the Royal Swazi airline, and we are working on that. One of the decisions which were taken was that, maybe to try and contain our costs, we should bring back the F-28, and it was agreed that the F-28 will be brought back by the end of March, which has indeed necessitated the grounding of the F-100. However, like we did with the F-28 when the F-100 came, we looked for someone to use the aircraft, and it has been used by one country, and this country was prepared to take it on and on and on, because it was beneficial to them. So we do hope, and right now we are having some negotiations with one or two other potential lessees of the F-100, and we will [word indistinct], as we go on with that. I did say some time that it may not be easy, at this stage, to return the aircraft back to the people that sold the aircraft to us, because of the conditions that were put into the purchase agreement. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Swaziland: Corruption Reportedly 'Rampant' in Ministry of Works

MB0304121796 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 3 Apr 96 p 32

[Report by Nkululeko Dlamini]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lobamba — The Senate was yesterday told that the Ministry of Works and Construction is the "mother of all corruption" amongst govern-

ment ministries. The corruption was described as so rampant that senators felt they could not guarantee that the ministry will put to good use international loans for big projects.

This was said by Senator Walter Bennett yesterday during debate over a Bill which seeks Parliament's permission for Minister of Finance Dr Derek von Wissell to sign a E121 million [emalangen] for the upgrading of the Ngwenya/Mbabane and Luyengo/Sicunusa roads. The Bill is known as the Loan (Two International Roads Project) Bill, 1995.

Senator Bennett said if it all went accordingly he would recommend that the Bill be withdrawn because the "responsible" ministry is "irresponsible" and "rotten".

The minister has told Parliament that he has successfully negotiated for the loan with the African Development Bank (AfDB), and what is left now is for him to sign for it. He has to sign by April 10 1996, or otherwise the loan will fall away.

The senator cited problems which were experienced during the tendering process of the Matsapha/Mbabane highway. He wondered what guarantee could be given to the effect that there will be no corruption when the loan is secured. He said many government reports, including the Auditor General's one, all complain about the Ministry of Works.

He was critical of the falling away of the Manzini/Matsapha highway constructed by Marples Construction before a loan for this specific road has been settled.

Swaziland: International Trade Union Calls For Sanctions Against Swaziland

MB0204135096 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 2 Apr 96 pp 1, 32

[Report by Phiwokwakhe Ngidi]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Mbabane — The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions/ African Regional Organisation (ICFTU/Afro) has called for the suspension of development assistance against Swaziland and other countries where trade union rights are violated.

This resolution was taken at the Sheraton Hotel in Harare Zimbabwe on Sunday [31 March] evening. This was during the opening ceremony of the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the International Labour Organisation, ICFTU-Afro and SATUCC seminar on "Policies for Economic Growth and Development in Southern Africa".

In a speech he delivered at the seminar, ICFTU general secretary, Andrew Kailembo, minced no words about

what the international donor community should do to Swaziland and other countries in the region that stifle union rights and democracy.

Kailembo was recently in the country to hold talks with the Swaziland Federation of Trade Unions (SFTU) at the height of harassment by government agencies.

"The ICFTU/Afro will for its part do its utmost best to support democracy [word indistinct] development in Africa. We have developed a very consistent policy. In countries where trade union rights are violated and democracy does not exist, the ICFTU calls for a suspension of development assistance. We believe that any assistance to such countries is wasted in any case, as it is siphoned away to pay for the repressive efforts of authoritarian governments, or it disappears overseas into secret bank accounts, Kailembo said.

He said some governments in Africa and particularly in this region are all out to deny basic trade union and workers' rights.

"Some governments, including Swaziland, have taken the path of denial of basic trade union and workers' rights. This will be detrimental to the development of such countries' economies in the long run. In order for economic growth to be achieved, unions must have freedom," he said.

Kailembo said there was no need for international organisations to continue giving assistance to Swaziland when she is arrogantly violating trade union rights.

"The ICFTU is making a strong appeal to the IMF, the World Bank and the European Union to suspend all the aid to Swaziland until she respects trade union rights in the country. The SFTU charges have been 'cooked up'. Swaziland cannot convince the world that these are real charges and the ICFTU will continue to convince the world to force Swaziland to drop the charges," Kailembo said.

Kailembo then called for the writing off of debts owed by African countries that are run in democratic principles. "In countries where there is democratic accountability and thus a real chance for economic development, then the international community should provide the maximum possible assistance and should write off debts owed by those countries."

Zambia

Zambia: Government Taking Threats Toward Ministers 'Seriously'

MB0304175696 Gaborone Radio Botswana Network in English 1610 GMT 3 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Zambian Government says it will not sit idle while the country's leaders are threatened with assassination by a group calling itself the Black Mambas.

The security chairman of the ruling Movement for Multiparty Democracy, Mr. Kelly Walubita, says the government is taking the threat seriously. He said seven ministers have had their official cars stolen.

He said the death threats on cabinet ministers who support the new constitution is another serious development. The new constitution seeks to bar second-generation Zambians from holding office of the president.

The Black Mamba has written threatening letters to several ministers and the Speaker of the National Assembly, warning them that they could be harmed if they support the new constitution. Mr. Walubita is one of the leaders who has received threatening letters.

Zambia: Houses of 4 UNIP Members Burned in Mkaika

MB0404074196 Lusaka THE POST in English 3 Apr 96

[Report by Masauso Lungu and Reuben Phiri; received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Four more houses in Mkaika Constituency, belonging to opposition UNIP [United National Independence Party] members, were burnt by unknown people as the date for its by-election drew closer.

Acting Police Public Relations Officer Bartholomew Jere in an interview yesterday disclosed that six cadres, three each from UNIP and the MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy], have been arrested. "The UNIP cadres appeared in court yesterday while the MMD cadres will appear in court today for conduct likely to breach the peace," Jere said.

But UNIP Central Committee Member Rabson Chongo last night accused the police in Mkaika of being partial, citing an incident where UNIP Chairperson for Women's Affairs Liz Kapapa was yesterday assaulted in their presence. "No arrests have been made and yet Kapapa was attacked with beer bottles in full view of the police. Her hand was cut and she sustained a knee

injury," Chongo complained in an interview yesterday. "Tomorrow, UNIP is lodging an official complaint with police headquarters over the violent way the MMD is handling this by-election." [Name indistinct] also alleged that Eastern Province Deputy Minister Hosea Soko yesterday went to the UNIP command post in Mkaika and threatened their supporters with a handgun.

Meanwhile, the Foundation for Democratic Process (Fodep) has deployed more election monitors in the violence-torn Mkaika Constituency in Katete. "The situation is very tense in Mkaika, and there is need to beef up the election team in the area," said Fodep Secretary Bishop John Mambo in an interview yesterday, adding: "We also need to investigate who is provoking the other between the two parties." Mambo also complained that the heavy presence of policemen in the constituency is affecting the people psychologically and should not be encouraged.

And Fodep President Foston Sakala said the situation in Mkaika needs close attention as it is very tense and anything can happen before the by-election date. "Unless we move and do something, anything can happen in Mkaika," Sakala warned. [passage omitted]

Zambia: Justice Minister Urges Works Minister To Resign Over Remarks

MB0404073396 Lusaka THE POST in English
3 Apr 96

[Report by Bright Mwape and Mervin Syafunko; received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Legal Affairs Minister Remmy Mushota yesterday advised Works and Supply Minister Simon Zukas to resign if he did not agree with the collective stand the government has taken on the Constitution adoption and amendment.

Mushota said on ZNBC's [Zambian National Broadcasting Corporation] "Tell The Nation" radio programme yesterday that recent remarks by Zukas on the mode of adoption of the Constitution were unfortunate. Zukas recently told his audience at a Bangladesh function in Lusaka that the MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] government should not use its numbers to bulldoze a constitution against the people's will.

Mushota however felt Zukas' position was inconsistent with the collective responsibility demanded of cabinet ministers. "As a cabinet minister, Hon Zukas knows the position of the government on the Constitution and if he is not happy and does not believe in collective responsibility he must resign," Mushota said in reply to a question from a caller.

When contacted in Lusaka yesterday, Zukas stood by his words maintaining "consensus must determine the adoption of the Constitution."

"My statement in no way contradicts government position. Unless he himself (Mushota) has a distorted view that government is not working for a consensus," Zukas said, adding: "This is all I emphasised. But let him be assured that if government does not stand for consensus then there is nothing people like me could do."

The government has proposed unpopular clauses in the constitution including those affecting the independence of the judiciary which have raised [words indistinct] Among the clauses is one which says only Zambians born in Zambia to Zambian-born parents qualify to stand for election as president. By implication several Zambians, especially the minority groups, are disqualified.

Immediate reactions to Mushota's statements by some commentators have not been favourable. "I am really uncomfortable with the minister's remarks. The problem with our leaders is that they treat any person with a different view as a rebel. Though as minister, Zukas is [words indistinct] of the so-called collective responsibility, he has a right to express his views on any issue he is not happy with," explained Foundation of Democratic Process Secretary Bishop John Mambo in a telephone interview yesterday.

Mambo does not support the controversial citizenship clause and feels it will divide the country.

UNIP [United National Independence Party] Chairman for Finance Rabson Chongo said Mushota is ignorant of his own subject because the clause would not affect Zukas alone but all responsible Zambians. "How many people does he expect to resign just because of his opportunism? Every responsible minister should be concerned. Even if they pass that clause illegally they should know that Chiluba won't stay in State House illegally," Chongo warned.

But Environment Minister William Harrington says because he is not affected by the clause he is not opposed to it. He declined to comment on Mushota's remarks because they were directed at another cabinet minister.

Last month former Commerce Minister Dipak Patel quit cabinet in protest against the same clauses and the method of the adoption of the Constitution.

Zambia: Police Recruit Reservists To Increase Fight Against Crime

MB0404094796 (Internet) ZAMBIA TODAY
in English 3 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Zambia Police Force has started recruiting more reservist officers countrywide with a view of strengthening the efforts of regular policemen who are presently outnumbered terribly by the civilians they serve some of whom are criminals.

Force Acting Public Relations Officer Mr Bartholomew Jere said in Lusaka Tuesday [2 April] that in spite of many rookies graduating from Lilayi Police Training College the numbers of serving officers were still way below the required numbers.

He said the force wants to see the reservists supplement the existing officers and work as one in the fight against crime. Mr Jere said since most policemen lived among members of the public it was a good idea that more civilians be recruited as reservists so that together they can reduce crime in their areas of residence.

Like all recruits the reservists are expected to be "crime free" and that their finger prints will have to be examined to ensure they were upright citizens and that they did not just want to masquerade like the proverbial wolf in sheep's skin.

Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe: Vice President Suffering From 'Unknown Illness'; Son Dies

MB0404081296 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2227 GMT 03 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Harare April 3 SAPA — Zimbabwe Vice President Joshua Nkomo's son Ernest died on Wednesday [3 April] at the age of 41 after suffering respiratory failure in Harare, ZIANA news agency reports.

The vice president, who is believed to be suffering from an unknown illness, was released from a Harare hospital to return home to mourn his son. Ernest Nkomo left Zimbabwe — then Rhodesia under Ian Smith — to join the liberation struggle and was sent to Hungary, Cuba and Angola for military training.

After Zimbabwe's independence in 1980, he joined the Zimbabwe army. He resigned in 1985 because of ill-health and later went to Canada to study computers and business. He was running the family business at the time of his death.

Ernest, who is survived by his wife Diana and three children, was the second born in a family of two boys and two girls.

President Robert Mugabe on Wednesday evening visited Nkomo at his Harare home to offer his condolences. Funeral arrangements have yet to be finalised.

Zimbabwe: Country Announces Reforms To Telecommunications Services

MB0204135196 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
2 Apr 96 p 6

[Report by Ross Herbert for the Independent Foreign Service]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Harare — The Zimbabwean Government last week announced a plan to commercialise its posts and telecommunications services in ways similar to reforms planned in South Africa.

Full privatisation was not considered as an option. However, the adopted plan was regarded as the most radical, according to Coopers and Lybrand. The firm analysed four scenarios for the government for improving and extending the communication service.

David Karimanzira, the minister of information, posts and telecommunications, said its postal operations, telephone service and telecommunications equipment manufacturing operations would each be spun off into a separate registered company. The three companies will be owned by a state-owned holding company.

The postal service will establish franchise operations similar to the privately run Postnet outlets created by the South African postal service and regulated competition will be permitted for letters over 500 grams. Postal rates will be increased to earn a commercial return and government ministries will pay for postal services.

Karimanzira said the telephone company would seek proposals for private-sector firms to build additions to the telephone network. The firms would either own the new operations for a period of time before transferring ownership to the state telephone company, or build the system, transfer it to the telephone company and then run the operations under a contract.

The operating companies would be freed from the regulations affecting posts and telecommunications. Regulated competition would also be allowed in data networks and electronic mail.

The announcement was praised by local business and international lending officials who have been exerting pressure on Zimbabwe to trim its bloated civil service, spin off its large parastatal operations and cut chronic government deficits.

"It is long overdue," said Chung Suk Cha, head of the International Monetary Fund office in Harare. "I think

there is general recognition in government that they need to increase competition in all sectors," he said.

The announcement leaves many key questions unanswered. President Robert Mugabe said he would not support foreign investors taking stakes in privatized state companies, but few Zimbabwean firms have the expertise to manage telecommunication contracts.

Zimbabwe's telephone system has about 167,000 phone lines but faces a backlog of 100,000 customers waiting for telephones. The network is also chronically overburdened, with 70 percent of calls failing to connect in 1994.

Zimbabwe's government deficit has grown steadily from 7.5 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) in 1990 to 15 percent today.

Government spending, excluding its large parastatal sector, represents 40 percent of GDP, the second highest in southern Africa after Angola.

Zimbabwe: State Seeking Ways To Allow Private Broadcasting Stations

*MB0104192796 Harare Zimbabwe National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English
1800 GMT 1 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The minister of information, posts, and telecommunications, Comrade David Karimanzira, says government will soon finalize ways of allowing private companies to open broadcasting stations in the country.

Soon after touring Space Age Communications Studios, Comrade Karimanzira said the government, in conjunction with the ZBC [Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation], will soon make recommendations on how this can be done. The managing director of Space Age Communications, Comrade Richard Makore, said they are putting everything in place, so that they will not be caught unawares when the airwaves are liberalized.

Benin

Benin: President-Elect Not Present at Farewell Ceremony

AB0404083296 Cotonou Office de
Radiodiffusion-Television du Benin Radio in French
0700 GMT 4 Apr 96

[FBIS Report] Cotonou Office de Radiodiffusion-Television de Benin Radio in French at 0710 GMT on 4 April begins live coverage of the farewell ceremony for outgoing President Nicéphore Soglo at the Marina Palace of the Republic. Reception is fair.

After describing the scene, correspondent Marcel Tchobo reports the presence of French Cooperation Minister Jacques Godfrain in the big hall of the palace. At 0715 GMT, Tchobo reports that Nicéphore Soglo has arrived. After receiving military honors, Soglo goes into the big hall for private talks with the French cooperation minister, who leaves the palace for Porto Novo at 0728 GMT. At 0736 GMT, Tchobo reports that "the ceremony is taking another turn" as the outgoing president, Nicéphore Soglo, has left the palace. Tchobo says: "No explanation was given. It seems also that the general [President-elect Kérékou] will also not turn up at the Marina Palace."

The correspondent then interviews the outgoing foreign minister, Edgar Monou. The minister says: "I think the ceremony is over. We had a precise protocol arrangement and I think the outgoing president respected the schedule and arrived shortly before 0800 [0700 GMT], and he went back home after his brief talks with French Cooperation Minister Jacques Godfrain." Tchobo then asks whether the private talks will be held. Minister Monou says: "I have just realized that the president-elect has not turned up. So, the private talks will not be held because the outgoing president has already gone back home." Asked by another correspondent why the president-elect did not turn up as scheduled for the farewell ceremony, the outgoing foreign minister and also chief of protocol for the ceremony declines to answer, saying that it is getting late and that he has to set out immediately for Porto Novo. "I have taken account of what we have all witnessed at the palace and I hope to see you fairly soon in Porto Novo," Minister Monou concludes, pointing out that in the protocol arrangement, outgoing President Soglo is not scheduled to be in Porto Novo.

The reportage on the handing-over ceremony concludes at 0745 GMT, with Tchobo stating that the guests are now leaving the palace.

Benin: President Kérékou Inauguration Address

AB0404111896 Cotonou Office de
Radiodiffusion-Television du Benin Radio in French
1003 GMT 4 Apr 96

[Inauguration address by newly elected Benin President Mathieu Kérékou in Porto Novo on 4 April — live]

[FBIS Translated Text] Mr. Speaker of the National Assembly, Madam Chairperson of the Constitutional Court, Mr. President of the Supreme Court, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, dear guests, Beninese women and men: To ensure transparency, I would have liked not to make an inauguration address but to hold a large rally before you and tell you what I am and what I want to be and what I want to do with you in Benin. [cheers] As the protocol has already drafted the schedule, all the same, I would like to tell you that it is not an inauguration speech that I want to read to you, but just a response to the brilliant address made by the chairperson of the Constitutional court. [applause]

Madam Chairperson of the Constitutional Court, a popular saying goes like this: The simplest words are those that describe best someone's deepest feelings. Thus, I would simply like to say thank you for your kind and encouraging words about me just now. I can assure you that I perfectly assess the seriousness and the extent of the solemn pledge that I have just made, on this day, Thursday, 4 April 1996, when I took the oath of office in conformity with the 11 December 1996 [date as heard] Constitution. I am fully aware of the demands of the high task henceforth bestowed upon me as head of the state of Benin. I want to reiterate once again my firm desire to be the president of all Beninese women and men. Throughout my term of office, I pledge to work for true national reconciliation and for the preservation of a climate of tolerance, concord, and brotherliness in our country, the Republic of Benin. [cheers] Upon this solemn occasion, I also want to make it my duty to sincerely thank all our honorable guests, members of the diplomatic corps, representatives of international organizations, emissaries and special envoys of heads of state of brotherly and friendly countries, whose presence by our side demonstrates, in our view, a sign of interest and support which we very much appreciate.

Ladies and gentlemen, honorable invited guests, and dear Beninese citizens: The grand march toward national democratic renewal, which has been launched in our country with the victorious convocation of the (?political conclave) of the active forces of the nation in February 1990, has just recorded yet another decisive achievement. This testifies to the firm determination of the entire Beninese people to fully embrace and control their great national destiny through solid and qualitative

democratic institutions. I am convinced that this process will continue to enjoy the active support and constant backing of those in this country who love peace, justice, and social progress. During extraordinary circumstances in our country at the PLM Aledjo Hotel, we said that it was not necessary for the Beninese people, especially for us the cadres of this country, who are known in history, to renew the spirit of excellence with the suppression of regimes or governments, or to renew the excellence [words indistinct] all those who decide the future of the people of Benin should fear [words indistinct] God. [applause] It was said that Satan and [words indistinct] that the world is condemned and the flesh is crucified. From this time on, [words indistinct] I know that our country, Benin, is a republican and lay society where religions are allowed. That is why all these bodies recognize one name — God. I would like to ask you; I would like to ask your permission — the solemn and legitimate permission of the people of Benin without exception — to [words indistinct] permit me to place our term of office under the sign of the protection of God.

Long live the democratic renewal, long live Benin, and long live the Beninese revolutionary process.

Ghana

Ghana: Former Diplomat To Contest Presidential Elections

AB0304225296 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English
2000 GMT 3 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A former career diplomat, Mr. Yao Banful Turkson, today declared his intention to contest this year's presidential election on the ticket of the People's Convention Party. Speaking at a news conference in Accra, he explained that the country is currently in dire need of a dedicated and incorruptible leadership to bring about meaningful development.

Mr. Turkson said no development can be meaningful unless it takes care of the basic needs of the people. He called for the promotion of democracy based on the rule of law, insured peace, and stability. The 63-year-old diplomat declared his support for the proposed alliance of opposition parties and promised to work hard to bring it to fruition.

Mr. Turkson said that the full potential of all Ghanaians, both home and abroad, is needed to build the strong nation that everyone is yearning for.

Guinea

Guinea: Newspaper Owner Still in Detention Despite Court Ruling

AB0304122196 London BBC World Service
in English 0630 GMT 3 Apr 96

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The owner of the Guinean newspaper, Souleymane Diallo, seems to be in the bad books of the Guinean authorities. His problems stem from an article that appeared last month in the satirical paper, the LYNX, which claimed that the government gave wage increases to soldiers involved in last February's mutiny. He was arrested for this, but later acquitted and ordered by the court to be freed. But apparently he is still in jail. On the line, Abdourahim Focara asked his lawyer, Bashirou Barry, what reasons the prosecutor general had given for not releasing Mr. Diallo.

[Begin recording] [Barry] He did not give any reason; he answered only that he has his own law.

[Focara] Did he explain what he meant by that?

[Barry] He did not explain anything at all.

[Focara] Can you tell us a little bit about the conditions in which Mr. Diallo is being detained?

[Barry] As far as our conditions here are, I think he is in good conditions. You see that the prison of Conakry is very old — very very old, but Mr. Diallo is in a relatively good conditions.

[Focara] So, what do you expect will happen to Mr. Diallo now?

[Barry] Well, we are going to take this to the Court of Appeal. If the law is implemented, we are quite sure that we [words indistinct] against the prosecutor. [end recording]

Liberia

Liberia: ULIMO's Koromah Denies Involvement in Guinean Camp Attack

AB0304185596 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 GMT 3 Apr 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] There were reports yesterday that conflicts in Liberia had spilled over into refugee camps in neighboring Guinea. Responsibility for a raid across the border by an armed gang was laid at the feet of Alhaji Koromah's ULIMO-K [United Liberation

Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Koromah] faction. It followed recent claims that Koromah's men had been involved in fighting at Tubmanburg in the northwest with forces loyal to Roosevelt Johnson's faction of ULIMO-J [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Johnson]. Well, Alhaji Koromah called us up to deny involvement in the raid into Guinea. Josephine Hazely asked him if it wasn't his forces, then who was it.

[Begin recording] [Koromah] The truth of the matter here is that a certain group always infiltrates the refugee camps. This group is connected with a certain warring faction in Liberia. They have been carrying this on for the past three years. They always infiltrate the refugee camps.

[Hazely, interrupting] Now, you say a certain group, and you say they've been doing this for something like three years. Now, who is this certain group?

[Koromah] Well, they used to be connected with the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia], you know, and they belong to a certain tribe, but they were NPFL fighters. I had taken up this matter with Mr. Taylor before Abuja and even as late as three weeks ago, we heard that his former generals or generals were (?retrenching) out there, moving into the boundary areas with Guinea, and trying to infiltrate the refugee camps to attack our positions, and he said he had nothing to do with it.

[Hazely] So, let me get this straight. So, you are denying that those attackers had nothing to do with your ULIMO group and that in fact, they may have something to do with the NPFL of Charles Taylor?

[Koromah] What I am trying to say here is that these people infiltrate the refugee camps. They come to attack our positions, and we chase them out onto the border area, and in order to create the impression that it is ULIMO, they go and attack villages in Guinea, the (?fleeing) groups that leave the Guinean border area enter into our areas and return to cause havoc in the area so that we can have very bad relationship with the Guinean Government. I mean this has been a repeated situation for the past two, three years. This is nothing new.

[Hazely] Now inside Liberia also yesterday, we got this report saying that the refugees have been fleeing from the Tubmanburg area and it is to do with fighting between you in the ULIMO Mandingo and the Krahn wing. Now what's going on there?

[Koromah] Well, we have been very clear on the matter. Everybody should now know that for the past several weeks, ULIMO-J, which was headed by Johnson, has

been split into two with sympathizers of [Arma] Youlo versus sympathizers of Johnson, and they have been fighting each other in that Bomi Hills-Tubmanburg corridor, but this has resulted in severe displacement of civilians. So, the ULIMO which I head — the original ULIMO — has been in the vicinity, as always, on a very alert and defensive position, but today, we've issued a statement that in 48 hours, these skirmishes between Youlo and Johnson groups will have to come to a stop and that the ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] arms, heavy weapons will have to be delivered or we will have to intervene to contain the situation because you see, the longer this thing goes on, the more it will hamper the deployment process in that part of Liberia. [end recording]

Liberia: Charles Taylor Denies Plan To Seize Monrovia

AB0404135596 London BBC World Service
in English 0630 GMT 4 Apr 96

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Things fall apart and particularly in Liberia, it seems, where the fragile peace process is in danger of collapsing. With fighting flaring up in various parts of the country, notably in the southeast and around Tubmanburg and Kakata, the faction leaders are making bitter accusations against each other. In particular, Charles Taylor has been accused of taking advantage of the disarray in Roosevelt Johnson's ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] faction to grab land formerly held by Johnson as part of a strategy to surround the capital. So when Mr. Taylor called up, Robin White put it to him that the whole peace process was starting to unravel.

[Begin recording] [Taylor] No, no, quite to the contrary. Let us look at the Kakata situation where the National Patriotic Front of Liberia moved in under the guidance of the Council of State to restore peace and stability in the Kakata, Bong Mine, and Todi region. What you have going on in Bomi Hills now is a quasi...[pauses], a council action to restore peace and stability until ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] [words indistinct]. Well, they have to fully respect the Council of State that has had to come to the rescue of ECOMOG not only in Tubmanburg but also in Todi. Yes, we have had some problems in the southeastern region; it is under control, but the important thing here is that this government, this Council of State, is trying to establish effective control and establish law and order in this country.

[White] Some people, Mr. Taylor, are accusing you of using the problems with ULIMO-J [Johnson] of seizing territory around Kakata and other places.

[Taylor] No, no, if you call ECOMOG and other [word indistinct] forces, they will tell you. We moved into that place when the lives of our people were in danger. We have since withdrawn militarily from those areas, we have turned them over to ECOMOG, we have created safe havens, we have installed a civilian administration there. By we I mean the Council of State, and for the first time there is a police station in Kakata and with police there [words indistinct] have redeployed in Kakata. In essence, the government of Liberia, under the Council of State, in granting us the OK to go in and restore peace is a plus for this government.

[White] Some people suspect, Mr. Taylor, that you have a plan at the back of your mind that, you know, if the peace does break down then you will be in a position to seize Monrovia because you will have your men closer to Monrovia, and that's what moving into Kakata and other places was all about.

[Taylor] Well, that cannot be true because if this were true I would not have withdrawn from Kakata back to my bases. [end recording]

Mali

Mali: Gao Telecommunications Satellite Center Inaugurated

AB0404140996 *Bamako Radiodiffusion-Television du Mali Radio in French* 1945 GMT 3 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Culture and Communication Minister Bakary Konimba Traore today inaugurated the telecommunications satellite station in Gao today. He also took the opportunity to visit other departments under his ministry. He visited the local radio station, as well as the tombs of ancient traditional rulers. Our special correspondent in Gao, Amanga Dambele, has the report.

[Begin Dambele recording] The communication minister left Timbuktu at 0500 yesterday only to arrive in Gao around 1100 this morning. [passage omitted] The satellite telecommunications station is a fully-equipped modern station and is part of the telecommunications network modernization project for Timbuktu, Kidal, Kenyebe, and Gao.

The project was funded by the French Development Fund at a cost of 4.15 billion CFA francs and carried out by the Malian Telecommunications Company. The station has 275 subscribers so far, but has a capacity for 500. Furthermore, there are plans to expand the

telecommunications network soon. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Nigeria

Nigeria: Government Urges U.S. To Reconsider Position on Drug Issues

AB0304223196 *Lagos NTA Television Network in English* 2000 GMT 3 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nigeria has called on the United States to reconsider its decertification of Nigeria on drug issues. The special adviser to the head of state on drugs and financial crimes, Alhaji Adamu Muhammed, made the statement while speaking to newsmen in Abuja. Correspondent Alima Abdulai, has the details:

[Begin recording] [Abdulai] Ambassador Adamu Muhammed lamented there is a great deal of misunderstanding and exaggeration of Nigeria's involvement in drug issues in the United States. He reiterated that despite the decertification of the country, Nigeria's dealing in drugs is insignificant compared to that of the United States.

[Muhammed] The United States on the other hand, in terms of production, is about 76 percent. In terms of consumption, is a 100 percent. In terms of trafficking, it is about 80 percent. So if you compare the United States and Nigeria, who is the drug trafficker? Who is the drug manufacturer? Who is the drug consumer?

[Abdulai] The special adviser said the United States rejected the suggestion of signing a bilateral agreement on the drug war and insisted on a multilateral agreement and then turned round to accuse the country of not cooperating. Ambassador Adamu Muhammed stated that the machinery put in place to penalize drug offenses in Nigeria are (?more) stringent than those in the United States.

[Muhammed] If any drug trafficker is arrested in Nigeria, the maximum sentence he gets is 25 calendar years, meaning he spends in prison, every single day of those 25 years. In the United states, it is not so. They give him about five years, six years, and then out of the five, they give him two years parole. He spends three years and goes out.

[Abdulai] The special adviser worries that the evil of drugs knows no boundaries and as such it effects or spills to other countries which is why Nigeria is committed to the crusade. He said even though the situation is so curious as some people are advocating capital punishment, the price of hard drugs has dropped to 80 percent. [end recording]

Nigeria: UN Fact-Finding Mission Confers With Key Federal Officials

*AB0304164396 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network
in English 1500 GMT 3 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Members of the United Nations fact-finding mission to Nigeria have ended a meeting with key officials of the Federal Government in Abuja. At the meeting, they were briefed by the chairman of the National Electoral Commission of Nigeria, Chief Sumner Karibi Dagogo-Jack, and the chairman of the Transition Implementation Committee, Mr. Justice Mamman Nasir.

Other officials who briefed the delegation were the chairman of the Federal Character Commission, Alhaji Adamu Fika, and the chairman of the National Reconciliation Council, Chief Alex Akinyele. The team rounded off its two-day consultations with government officials with a meeting with the secretary to the government of the Federation, Alhaji Jidadu Idris.

Speaking with newsmen after the briefing, the leader of the team, Mr. Kofi Amida of Togo, expressed the hope that members would succeed in their mission. On the enforcement of the government's political transition program, he said it was for Nigerians to put their trust in the government and its program.

Nigeria: Abacha Calls For Peace, Stability in Africa

*AB0304225096 Lagos NTA Television Network
in English 2000 GMT 3 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The head of state, General Sani Abacha, has said that no meaningful planning will be possible in Africa without peace and stability in

the various countries of the continent. He made the observation today in Abuja when the outgoing Algerian ambassador, Mr. (Slimane Laroua), paid him a farewell visit. The head of state expressed satisfaction with the relationship between Nigerian and Algeria which, he said, has continued to grow over the years.

Earlier, Mr. (Laroua) expressed happiness with the opportunity his stay in Nigeria had offered him to appreciate the greatness of the country. Mr. (Laroua) registered his conviction that everything was on course in Nigeria, adding that Africa stood to gain from a strong, united, prosperous Nigeria.

Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone: New Parliament Holds First Session, Elects Speaker

*AB0304224296 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1830 GMT 3 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] The new Sierra Leonean Parliament held its first session yesterday after four years of military rule. The military recently handed over to a civilian regime. At yesterday's session, the parliamentarians who were elected at the end of February chose Sheku Mohamed Kutubu as the parliamentary speaker. Sheku Mohamed Kutubu is 64 years old and was justice minister when the military regime took over in April 1992.

The military regime paved the way for the February and March general elections. The new Parliament is made up mostly of members or allies of President Ahmed Tejan Kabbah's Sierra Leone People's Party.

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